

further in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,790,974 (Tognazzini). The earliest publication date of these references is November 1, 1996 ("The Future is Bright for Microsoft Outlook 97").

Applicant's prior Response of June 24, 2002, with Declaration of Applicant was deemed ineffective to remove the cited references as prior art. To that end, Applicant respectfully submits that the presently claimed invention was completed and reduced to practice well before the earliest publication date of these references (November 1, 1996), as evidenced by the enclosed Supplemental Declaration under 37 C.F.R. § 1.131 and supporting exhibits.

Accordingly, an illustrative embodiment of the present invention is recited in claim 5 which is directed to a process for scheduling time intervals for a plurality of invitees and includes storing one or more invitee profiles for one or more potential invitees. The one or more invitee profiles comprise user profiles where each user profile includes information regarding available and unavailable times for that user. The process also includes receiving a request for allocation of a time interval for the one or more potential invitees, gathering the invitee profiles for the one or more potential invitees, determining whether the potential invitees are available during the requested time interval and displaying results. The user may select from at least three results viewing options including a viewing option displaying the one or more potential invitees that are available, a viewing option displaying the one or more potential invitees that are not available and a viewing option displaying the one or more potential invitees whose schedule could not be found. Independent claims 1, 4, 6, 25 and 33 recite the same patentable features.

As the supporting Supplemental Declaration of the Applicant states, the present invention was conceived and reduced to practice well before November 1, 1996. The Supplemental Declaration discusses the source code of the commercial embodiment of the present invention. For the Examiner's convenience, the below listed TABLE A lists the claim features discussed above for a process (system/computer medium) for scheduling time intervals for a plurality of invitees and cites the related portion of the Supplemental Declaration which discusses how the source code supports the present invention.

TABLE A

storing one or more invitee profiles for one or more potential invitees of the system, the one or more invitee profiles comprising user profiles wherein each user profile comprises information regarding available and unavailable times for that user;	Exhibit A and Part 11; source code nsf/schedule.c.
receiving a request for allocation of a time interval for the one or more potential invitees;	Exhibit A and 11-13; source code nsf/schedule.c, client/clschret.c and server/scschret.c.
gathering the invitee profiles for the one or more potential invitees;	Exhibit A and 14-16; source code nsf/schedule.c, nsf/schcntnr.c, nsf/schobj.c and nsf/schods.c.
determining whether the potential invitees are available during the requested time interval; and	Exhibit A and 17; source code schui/bsysugg.cpp and misc/timelist.c.
displaying results by permitting a user to select from at least three results viewing options including a viewing option displaying the one or more potential invitees that are available, a viewing option displaying the one or more potential invitees that are not available and a viewing option displaying the one or more potential invitees whose schedule could not be found, and then displaying the results according to the option selected.	Exhibit A and 18; source code schui/bsylist.cpp, schui/bsylistw.cpp, schui/freetime.cpp and wmisc/drawtime.cpp.

As Exhibit A of the Supplemental Declaration also indicates, the last modification date for all but three (3) of these files were prior to November 1, 1996. Thus, the invention was reduced to practice at least prior to November 1, 1996. Applicant submits that the three files which included modification dates after November 1, 1996 (November 12, 1996 and November 15, 1996) were only modified to correct software "bugs", and did not add or extend any of the existing functionality or capabilities of the invention (see Supplemental Declaration, Part 21).

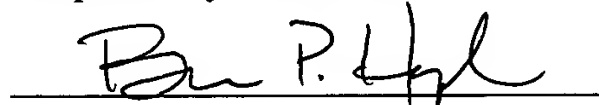
Accordingly, since the present invention was conceived of and reduced to practice well before the earliest date of the relied upon references, Applicant respectfully requests that the references be removed as prior art in the subject application. To that end, Applicant respectfully requests that the § 103 rejection be withdrawn.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing remarks, and attached Supplemental Declaration, Applicant submit that the issues raised in the outstanding Office Action have all been addressed. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully request favorable reconsideration and early passage to issue of the present application. Should the Examiner have any questions, issues or comments regarding Applicant's present Response After Final, Applicant kindly requests that the Examiner contact the undersigned attorney for discussion of such.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our Reston office by telephone at (703) 464-4800. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address given below.

Respectfully submitted,



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